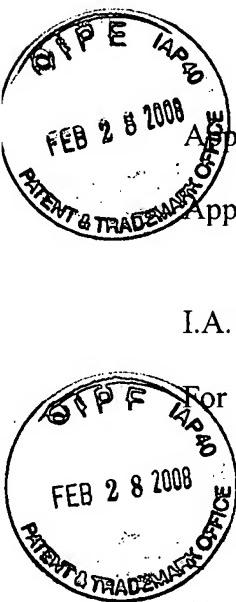


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant : Atsushi SEKI Group Art Unit : 3663
 Appl. No. : 10/567,646 Examiner : E. L. Bolda
 (U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/011798)

I.A. Filed : August 11, 2004 Confirmation No. : 2445

For : OPTICAL AMPLIFIER APPARATUS

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
 Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
 Randolph Building
 401 Dulany Street
 Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement that was previously filed on May 24, 2006, Applicant hereby brings to the attention of the Examiner a German Office Action dated December 20, 2007 with respect to patent family member German Patent Application No. 11 2004 001 499.9, in which the following documents were cited:

- (1) DE 698 06 785 T2;
- (2) DE 101 02 176 A1; and
- (3) EP 0 954 071 B1.

The relevance of these documents, as ascertained with respect to the German claims by the German Examiner, is set forth in the German Office Action.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached hereto, and are listed on an attached

Form PTO-1449. A copy of the German Office Action, including an English language translation thereof, is also attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form, and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicant notes that this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted subsequent to the issuance of a Non-Final Office Action on the merits, but before the issuance of a Final Office Action on the merits. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), Applicant hereby certifies that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. Thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

February 13, 2008
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Respectfully Submitted,
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